

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 03832 170516Z

20

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 170330Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3020

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3832

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJ: PAK AFGHAN RELATIONS

REF: STATE 137429; ISLAMABAD 5216; KABUL 3740 (NOTAL)

1. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR ALI ARSHAD TOLD AMBASSADOR JUNE 15 THAT BAN ON AD HOMINEM RADIO PROPAGANDA HAS IN FACT BEEN INSTITUTED BOTH IN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN, AND THAT IT SEEMS TO BE HOLDING. HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD EXPERIENCED SOME TROUBLE WITH HIS OWN SIDE IN MAKING THE BAN EFFECTIVE, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO PROPAGANDA FROM KARACHI RADIO.

2. NO AUTHORITATIVE AFGHAN SOURCE HAS MENTIONED THE BAN TO US SINCE DEFORMIN WAHEED ABDULLAH CITED THE POSSIBILITY IN HIS MAY 28 CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR (KABUL 3424). (NOTE: ABDULLAH HAS BEEN AWAY VISITING SYRIA AND YUGOSLAVIA, AND OCCASIONS FOR AFGHANS TO SPEAK FURTHER TO US ON THIS HAVE BEEN LACKING.) AMBASSADOR ARSHAD HOWEVER HAS TOLD HIS DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES HERE ABOUT BAN, AND ITS EXISTENCE SEEMS TO BE COMMONLY KNOWN IN MANY AFGHAN CIRCLES.

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PAGE 02 KABUL 03832 170516Z

3. WITH REGARD TO AFGHAN TROOP MOVEMENTS DESCRIBED

KABUL REFTEL (SEE ALSO IR6 800 0103SF75 NOTAL) ARSHAD APPEARS MORE PUZZLED THAN TROUBLED. HE PROFESSES TO KNOW OF NO PAK MILITARY MOVEMENTS WHICH MIGHT HAVE MOTIVATED THIS AFGHAN RESPONSE, BUT SPECULATED THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN TRIBAL DIFFICULTIES WHEN "TRIBESMEN COOPERATING WITH THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT IN A ROADBUILDING PROJECT WERE JEERED BY AFGHAN TRIBESMEN ACROSS THE WAY."

4. ARSHAD ALSO TELLS US HE HAS REPORTS, WHICH WE HAVE HEARD ELSEWHERE THROUGH STREET RUMORS, THAT THERE HAVE BEEN AFGHAN TROOP MOVEMENTS IN DIRECTIONS OF KHOST IN PAKHTIA PROVINCE AND SPIN BOLDAK, THE BORDER TOWN BETWEEN KANDAHAR AND QUETTA.

5. COMMENT: PUTTING EVERYTHING TOGETHER, AS FAR AS THE AFGHAN BUILD-UP IN THE JALALABAD AREA IS CONCERNED, IT SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT PAK TROOPS WERE OBSERVED BY THE AFGHANS ASSISTING OR PROTECTING ROAD WORK ON THE PAK SIDE OF THE BORDER AND THAT, NOT BEING CERTAIN AS TO THE PURPOSE OF THESE PAK TROOP DEPLOYMENTS, THE AFGHANS REACTED WITH A SIZEABLE SHOW OF FORCE. BUT THIS IS STILL MERE SPECULATION. ISLAMABAD COMMENT WOULD BE WELCOME.  
ELIOT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROPAGANDA, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975KABUL03832  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750210-0312  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 137429, 75 ISLAMABAD 5216, 75 KABUL 3740  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PAK AFGHAN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, AF, PK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006